GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4343
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2002
SALE OF SPURIOUS FERTILIZERS AND PESTICIDES
RATTAN LAL KATARIA

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that some domestic traders / foreign companies are selling spurious fertilizers and pesticides to the farmers; and

(b) if so, the details of such cases detected during the last one year and action taken against them, company-wise separately?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) & (b): No report regarding spurious pesticides has come to the notice of the Government. However, the analysis of samples of pesticides at State Pesticide Testing Laboratories in the country reveals that out of the total samples drawn, around 3 % have been found to be misbranded. During the last one year, 87 licenses were suspended, 380 licenses were cancelled, 279 prosecutions were launched, 31 judgments were obtained and 19 convictions took place for offences under the Insecticides Act, 1968.

As regards fertilizers during the year 2001-2002 only 5.7% of the samples drawn were found non-standard as per the report received from the State Governments. The Central Government under powers conferred by ECA.,1955 has enacted an order called Fertilizer Control Order,1985 (FCO). Itensures that fertilzer only which meets the standard of quality laid down in the order, are sold to the farmers in the country. The State Governments are the enforcement agencies and are adequately empowered to take appropriate action against the offenders who may indulge in any kind of malpractices in the manufacture/sale of fertilizer.